

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

NO BASIC DOCUMENT

Document No. DFB-19463

All reports transmitted under the FBI form reproduced below were numbered as enclosures or attachments to the form. The transmittal form has been destroyed. No other transmittal letter or report has ever existed for this document number.

Federal Bureau of Investigation


Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am enclosing
communications which may be of interest to you.

Very truly yours,


John Edgar Hoover
Director

(Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any,
this transmittal form becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY EAC
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2003 2008

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

FORM 2227
4-64

(40-47)

FOR COORDINATION WITH FBI

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DFB 19463

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE UN 1 2 1952	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/24, 27, 28, 11/16, 17, 23, 15/3, 9, 15, 22, 25/52	REPORT MADE BY JAMES M. ANDERSON
TITLE MLADEN SOIC, was: Mladen Solich, Mladen Sojic			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - YU
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Subject is assistant director of Yugoslav Information Center (YIC) and Tanjug with office located at 816 Fifth Avenue, NYC. Subject arrived U.S. September 1949 and presently residing 24-63 24th Street, Astoria, Long Island, N.Y. Information concerning subject obtained from files of Foreign Agents Registration Section and INS set out. Informant states subject is a member of CP of Yugoslavia. Subject is considered to be a diligent worker and to make trips in behalf of Tanjug and YIC. Activities of subject while in San Francisco and Los Angeles in May 1951 and August 1951 set out. Informant stated that SOIC is a member of UDMA (Yugoslav security police) but has advised further that subject seems to have no other mission in the U.S. than to espouse propaganda in behalf of Yugoslavia. Possible espionage activity of subject set out. Informants familiar with activities of subject stated to best of their knowledge subject not engaged in espionage activities either in the past or at present. SOIC has requested permission from Belgrade to set up "branch office" of YIC in San Francisco, but it is rumored SOIC may be recalled to Yugoslavia in the near future. Information concerning wife, BRICA SOIC, set out. Credit report set out. No criminal record located NYC. Description of subject set out.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>5 - Bureau (105-16657) 1 - Washington Field (Info) 1 - San Francisco (Info) 3 - New York (105-4003)</p>		<p>This is an FBI investigative report and is not to be used for clearance or disapproval.</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; transform: rotate(-15deg);">INDEX IS COPY</p>	

PROPERTY OF FBI - THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

DFB-19463

NY 105-4003

DETAILS: Basis for Investigation

This investigation was predicated upon information received from Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, who advised that he had been told by an official of the Yugoslav Consulate, New York City, that MLADEN SOIC was a member of the UDBA (Yugoslav Security Police) at the Yugoslav Information Center, New York City.

Background Information Concerning Subject

MLADEN SOIC is the Assistant director of the Yugoslav Information Center (YIC) and correspondent of Tanjug (telegraphic agency New Yugoslavia), with offices located on the second floor of 316 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

It is noted that the Yugoslav Consulate and the YIC also maintain their offices at 316 Fifth Avenue.

Tanjug has been registered with the Foreign Agents Registration Section, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 as amended and acts under the supervision of Tanjug, Belgrade, Yugoslavia. According to officials of Tanjug in their Registration Act statement, the activities of Tanjug, New York City, consists mainly of transmitting and sending press releases to and from the main office of Tanjug, which is located in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

The files of the Foreign Agents Registration Section, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., reflect the following information concerning the subject:

MLADEN SOIC, director and correspondent
Residence, 24-46 24 Street, Astoria, Long Island,
New York
Yugoslav National.

NY 105-4003

Most recent information obtained from the files of the Foreign Agents Registration Section, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., reflects that MILAN SOIC in December 1949 replaced STEVAN DEBIJER as assistant director of Tanjug, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, whose duty at Tanjug, New York City, was to supervise the activities of subject organization and its officials.

The records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 70 Columbus Avenue, New York City, were checked by SA NICHOLAS J. HASIKOVICH, which reflected the following information concerning the subjects:

Name	MILAN SOIC
Arrived via plane,	September 12, 1949, New York City
Born	May 24, 1923, Bakar, Yugoslavia
	Journalist with Yugoslav Delegation to United Nations.
	Service Passport No. B-0446, Visa 3(7).
	Occupation was listed as government official.
	Last permanent residence: 1 Kosancicev, Vrnja, Beograd, Yugoslavia.
Nearest relative:	JULIJA SOIC, Kuli-Kanova 34, Susak, Yugoslavia.

Confidential Informant 1-2, of known reliability, on May 17, 1950, advised that MILAN SOIC was a Yugoslav National and an official of Tanjug, New York City and a member of the Yugoslav Communist Party. Confidential Informant 1-2 advised that SOIC attended a school of journalism in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, as well as the ideological and political school in that country. Confidential Informant 1-2 further stated that SOIC was one of the higher functionaries of Tanjug, New York City, and supervises the overall activities of that organization.

SA ROBERT A. WHELAN reviewed the file concerning the YIC at the Foreign Agents Registration Section, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. on December 8, 1950, which file reflected the following information:

* aka STEVAN DEBIJER

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

NY 105-4003

Exhibit A, filed on February 23, 1950, by the YIC, reflected the following information:

VLADEN SOIC was born May 24, 1923, Bakar, Yugoslavia. SOIC commenced employment with the YIC as deputy director as of February 15, 1950. SOIC was also active as the foreign correspondent for the Yugoslav newspaper, "Borba." SOIC's residence was listed as 32-33 74th Street, Jackson Heights, New York, at the time.

Concerning SOIC's foreign travel, the following information was furnished:

During October and November 1948, SOIC was stationed in Albania as foreign correspondent for "Borba" and during August and September 1947, he was foreign correspondent for "Borba" in Czechoslovakia. SOIC entered the United States in September 1949.

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, advised that SOIC is a diligent worker and continues to make trips on behalf of Tanju, and YIC. Confidential Informant T-3 also advised that SOIC made two trips to California during 1951; once on vacation to make contacts with pro-TITO Yugoslavs and to attempt to encourage Hollywood producers to make a film about Yugoslavia, and later to attend a meeting of the Croatian Fraternal Union.

Activities of Subject During his Presence in the United States

According to Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, who was contacted in May 1951, VLADEN SOIC was in San Francisco from May 23 through May 28, 1951. SOIC discussed the questions of filing papers in the United States courts with attorneys both in Washington, D. C., and San Francisco to insure that ANTON MIKOVICH, former Croatian political leader in the days of the Pavelic government, who was presently being investigated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, be returned to Yugoslavia in the event he was expelled from the United States.

DFB 19463

NY 105-4003

Confidential Informant T-4 also advised that SOIC, while in San Francisco, contacted ~~Vladimir~~ ROUDEK, defected Czech Ambassador to the United Nations, and also ~~Boris~~ BERNES, former Czech Consul in San Francisco and nephew of the former Czech Ambassador. Confidential Informant T-4 stated SOIC discussed with BERNES the book the latter was writing concerning the history of the Jews and how they must all work against being "Russianized." SOIC indicated that he had sent material to BERNES explaining the Yugoslav case against Russia.

The purpose of subject's contact with ROUDEK is unknown.

Confidential Informant T-4 advised in June 1951 that ~~Walter~~ SOIC came to Los Angeles and was staying at the YMCA, 1715 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, California. This informant stated that the subject was in Los Angeles on vacation and while in Los Angeles, he desired to see ~~Matt~~ ~~Walter~~ ~~Wick~~ and ~~Matt~~ ~~Wick~~.

Previous investigation has shown that all of the above people are prominent members of the Yugoslav Committee in Los Angeles, but none of them is known to be pro-Cominform and all of them are pro-TITO Yugoslavs and they are actively engaged in Yugoslav relief work.

Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised that ~~Walter~~ SOIC stayed one night at the home of ~~Walter~~ WICK in Huntington Park. This was on June 23, 1951. The remainder of the time he stayed at the YMCA. When ~~Walter~~ SOIC stayed at WICK's, he attended a meeting there of the Direct American Relief to Yugoslavs organization, at which meeting some thirty people were present. SOIC gave a talk at this meeting. In this talk, he emphasized that in the

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NY 105-4003

opinion of the Yugoslav government, American aid should be mainly given to European countries, and the United States should not be disturbed by problems in the Orient. SOIC claimed that Marshal TITO has thirty divisions, and that Yugoslavia is prepared to resist any and all aggression.

SOIC informed Confidential Informant T-5 that he recently talked with the Dean of the University of California at Los Angeles, the name of whom was not mentioned.

SOIC also advised Confidential Informant T-5 that he had been invited to give a talk and would give the talk on European conditions. He had given several talks before Serbian groups in Los Angeles concerning European conditions and the problems facing Yugoslavia.

Confidential Informant T-5 stated that on June 26, 1951, subject visited several movie studios in Hollywood, California. The purpose of subject's visits to the studios is not known to the informant.

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that SOIC left Los Angeles by Greyhound bus on July 4, 1951, en route to New York by way of the Grand Canyon.

Confidential Informant T-4 advised on September 11, 1951, SOIC had returned to San Francisco in the company of VLAD BUCAN, of the Embassy Staff at Washington. According to the informant, it was Ambassador VLADJ POPOVIC's original intention for SOIC and BUCAN to cover the Japanese Peace Conference. However, a change of plans occurred and on September 1, 1951, ANTON TOLIC, of Lantjug, arrived in San Francisco specifically to cover the treaty.

The informant went on to advise that SOIC and BUCAN stayed at the home of Consul STANISLAV TOLIC. Confidential

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

NY 105-4003

Informant T-4 advised that BUCK and SOIC went to Los Angeles by auto on September 14, 1951, and stayed at the Elmore Hotel, where they remained until September 25, 1951.

Confidential Informant T-4 said that while in Los Angeles, BUCK and SOIC observed the convention of the Croatian Fraternal Union and also the proceedings in the case of ANTON KATUKOVICH, former Croatian Minister of the Interior under PAVLICH, whom the present Yugoslav Government is accusing of murder during the Nazi occupation.

Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, advised that BUCK and KALAN SOIC came to Los Angeles in November 1951, and that after arriving in Los Angeles they stayed at the Wild Deer Inn, 1377 West Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, for a short time. The informant said that BUCK and SOIC stayed at the Elmore Hotel during most of their visit.

Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, advised that BUCK and SOIC were very much interested in the proceedings of the Croatian Fraternal Union convention which was held in Los Angeles from September 16 to 25, 1951.

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, advised that SOIC and BUCKAN were in San Pedro, California, September 23, 1951. They came to San Pedro in order to attend the annual fishermen's fiesta. While watching the fiesta, SOIC and BUCKAN discussed the case of ANTON KATUKOVICH with several Yugoslavs. BUCKAN and SOIC stated, according to the informant, that KATUKOVICH was a fascist, a traitor and a murderer. They claimed that KATUKOVICH was responsible for the action of Croatia in declaring war on the United States during World War II.

Confidential Informant T-6 advised that BUCK and SOIC left Los Angeles the morning of September 26, 1951, en route for San Francisco by automobile. Confidential Informant T-4 also advised that while BUCK and SOIC were in Los Angeles, they attempted to sell Yugoslav films to local Los Angeles theaters. It was not learned whether or not they were successful in this venture.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

NY 100-4003

In regard to BUCAR, Confidential Informants T-9 and T-10, both of known reliability, advised in the early part of 1951 that BUCAR is the ULBA (Yugoslav Secret Police) agent attached to the Yugoslav Embassy in Washington, D.C. Confidential Informant T-9 advised further that although BUCAR is the ULBA agent in the embassy, he definitely lacks the drive and ambition expected of an individual in that position. He is not considered to be as intelligent or as ambitious as his predecessor, Dr. SLAVKO MORE. Confidential Informant T-9 believes that BUCAR'S complete lack of ambition and drive might possibly be due to the fact that he is in a poor state of health. He is considered to be clever at all times, but nevertheless very lackadaisical which results in many of his endeavors ending up in a complete state of confusion.

Possible Intelligence Activities

As reported earlier in this investigation, Confidential Informant T-1 advised that he had been informed by an official of the Yugoslav Consulate in New York City that the subject was a member of the ULBA and the YIC, New York City.

Confidential Informant T-1 furnished further information to the effect that although the subject may be a member of the ULBA, he seems to have no other vision in the United States than to espouse propaganda in behalf of Yugoslavia through the YIC.

It is noted that YIC is registered with the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 as amended.

Confidential Informant T-11, of known reliability, advised that it was his desire to emphasize that all representatives of the Yugoslav Government in the United States were potential agents of the ULBA. The informant based this belief on conversations which he had had with one Major VLADIMIR PUNIC, who he stated had been a member of the Yugoslav United Nations Delegation in 1943 or 1949. PUNIC, subsequent to his return to Yugoslavia with this Delegation, had told the informant that

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

NY 105-4033

prior to his (PURIC'S) departure from the United States, he had been given three missions. These missions were (1) to act as a physical guard for the Yugoslav United Nations Delegate; (2) to sound out American opinion pertaining to the support of Yugoslavia and (3) to perform any propaganda work in the United States when the opportunity arises. PURIC had stated that all officials of the Yugoslav Government, prior to their departure from Yugoslavia, were given similar missions and were active agents of the JIRBA.

Confidential Informant 1-1 advised in February 1952 that LUBOJEVIC, the director of the YIC, directed that all files of a secret or confidential nature be immediately removed from the premises of the YIC at 816 Fifth Avenue, New York City, and taken to the Yugoslav United Nations Delegation home at 854 Fifth Avenue.

LRBIC, through his co-director, MLADEN SOIC, explained that the files contained names of numerous individuals who had proven to be friendly toward Yugoslavia and whose reputation in the United States might easily be jeopardized should their identity be revealed to unauthorized individuals. SOIC went on to say that it was the responsibility of the Center to do everything in its power to protect the identity of these American contacts.

In July or August 1950, Confidential Informant 1-12, of known reliability, advised that a Yugoslav National, who is well known to the informant, confided in him and stated that he had a great desire to become a United States citizen and indicated to the informant that he had absolutely no desire to ever return to Yugoslavia.

In February 24, 1952, Confidential Informant 1-2 advised that during a conversation with the Yugoslav National he learned that on February 23, 1951, this individual said

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DFB 19463

NY 105-4003

he had an interview with DRAGOSJE POPOVSKI, an official of the YIC. Confidential Informant 1-2 advised that this person stated that POPOVSKI interviewed the National from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM on that date in the presence of LJUBIC SMILIC and MILAN B. BIC, both officials of the YIC.

Confidential Informant 1-2 stated that this person advised that he was asked how he was doing financially; what his immigration status was; and whether or not he intends to return to Yugoslavia. According to Confidential Informant 1-2, this person advised that POPOVSKI wanted to know whether or not he was still a friend of Yugoslavia and whether or not the present Yugoslav government can still rely on him and his eventual service to that country.

According to Confidential Informant 1-2, the National informed POPOVSKI and the others that he has been a friend to New Yugoslavia and is willing to do everything he can for Yugoslavia, inasmuch as his mother is presently in that country. The Yugoslav National stated that at this point in the interview, POPOVSKI warned him to tell the truth or the National would be putting his mother and all others who trusted in him in a precarious position. According to Confidential Informant 1-2, the National stated at this point in the conversation POPOVSKI asked him the following specific questions:

1. Whether or not the National had said anything against the present Yugoslav government while he was questioned by Immigration and Naturalization Service authorities in the United States.
2. Whether or not he has had any contacts with the FBI.
3. What is the extent of the contact of himself with DRAGAN VUKOBAT, an official of the United Nations Secretariat.

According to Confidential Informant 1-2, the National believed that POPOVSKI and BIC were satisfied with the answers the National gave them to the above questions.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

NY 105-4003

It is noted that JURE LUKIC had apparently left the room previous to this point in the conversation, according to the informant.

The National advised Confidential Informant Y-2 that JURE LUKIC then said that he and the others had decided to offer him a position with the YIC in New York City, and that he was supposed to work on matters regarding intelligence activities for which he would receive \$300.00 a month and would get much additional support from the officials of the Yugoslav Government residing in the United States.

Confidential Informants Y-3, Y-13, Y-14, Y-15 and Y-16, all of known reliability, all of whom are acquainted with the subject, have advised to the best of their knowledge, they do not believe the subject to be engaged in espionage activities either in the past or at present.

Miscellaneous

Confidential Informant Y-3 advised that it has requested permission from Belgrade to set up a "branch office" of the YIC in San Francisco, but it is rumored that SMI may be recalled to Yugoslavia in the near future. He stated further that SMI is by far the most aggressive member of the staff at the Information Center and talks the Communist Party line and the Tito line with great intensity.

Confidential Informant Y-2 advised on February 12, 1950, that ANKA LUKIC, wife of the subject, has received a scholarship from the Yugoslav Government, and is expected to register and to begin studies at New York University. The informant advised that RALPH A. SMITH, a professor at Yale University and a former director in Yugoslav relief activity, was mentioned by Mrs. LUKIC as a reference. The informant stated that Professor SMITH is expected to assist Mrs. LUKIC in being accepted at New York University, inasmuch as she lacks the qualifications necessary for registration.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

NY 105-4003

Confidential Informant 1-1 advised on January 31, 1952, that Mrs. SOIC is presently studying languages at an unknown university in New York City. This informant further stated that Mrs. SOIC regularly submits reports regarding her contacts with students at the school which she attends, as well as evaluation reports regarding students and professors who seem to be in favor of the Yugoslav Government with whom she has been in contact.

The files of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York were checked by SA CONRAD C. BARN and reflected the following information:

In a report dated November 27, 1950, MIALEN and EPIKA SOIC were residing at 35-27 78th Street, Jackson Heights, Long Island, New York, and that they had resided at this address since November 1, 1950 and had sublet the apartment from a Mrs. BINK.

The report reflects that SOIC is director of the YIC, that he had been here for approximately five years at a salary of approximately \$6,000.00 per year. The report also reflects that Mrs. SOIC worked at the Information Center as a correspondent.

The record indicates that the SOICs have had no credit experience in New York City, and that there was nothing derogatory concerning their record with the Credit Bureau.

The files of the New York City Police Department were checked by SA AUGUST J. WILK, and no criminal record under the name of the subject was located.

The following description of the subject was obtained from Confidential Informants and Immigration and Naturalization Service records:

Name
Aliases

MIALEN SOIC
Mladen Soich,
Mladen Sojic

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DFB 19463

NY 100-4003

Address	24-63 24 Street, Astoria, Long Island, New York
Born	May 24, 1925 Bakar, Yugoslavia
Nationality	Yugoslav
Race	Croatian
Occupation	Government employee (Yugoslavia)
Sex	Male
Height	5' 11 1/2"
Weight	155 lbs.
Hair	Light brown
Eyes	Blue
Build	Slight
Marks	None
Peculiarities	Wears dark horn-rimmed glasses
Life	ENICA SOIC, 24-63 24 Street, Astoria, Long Island, New York
Nearest relative in Yugoslavia	is listed as JOSIPA SOIC, Polj-danova 23, Susak, Yugoslavia.

There is being maintained as an exhibit in the New York case file six photographs of the subject.

- P E N D I N G -

BEST AVAILABLE COPY